2001 Census of Canada

Nova Scotia Perspective

Release # 1

Population and Dwellings

March, 2002

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Statistics Division

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Department of Finance
Statistics Division

NOVA SCOTIA HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2001 CENSUS OF CANADA

- Results from the May 15, 2001 Census showed the population of Nova Scotia declined 0.1% since 1996 to 908,007, while Canada's population of 30,007,094 represented growth of 4.0% over the same period.

- Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories and the Yukon all experienced population declines.

- Thirteen of the province's eighteen counties showed population declines. Guysborough County had the largest decline at 10% while Halifax County exhibited the strongest growth at 4.7%.

- Bridgetown was the fastest growing town in the province with an increase of 4.1% to 1,035 residents.

- Of Canada's 25 census metropolitan areas, Halifax Metro maintained its thirteenth position based on population size. In 2001 there were 359,183 people, 39.6% of the total population of the province, residing in Halifax Metro.

It should be noted that there is a level of under coverage inherent in all censuses. In 1996 the national under coverage was 2.45% and for Nova Scotia it was 2.24%. Next year the population estimates will be adjusted upward to take into account the under coverage. The actual adjustment amount has not been determined.

Population Change of Provinces/Territories

Since the last Census taken on May 14, 2001, the population of Nova Scotia fell by 0.1% to 908,007, a decrease of 1,275 persons. All provinces in Atlantic Canada except Prince Edward Island had negative growth. This contrasts with the 4.0% positive growth seen at the national level. Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Yukon and the Northwest Territories all had population declines greater than Nova Scotia. Newfoundland had the steepest decline in the country at -7.0%. Prince Edward Island had the highest growth rate in Atlantic Canada at 0.5% while Alberta had the highest rate of growth in the country at 10.3%. The other provinces/territories that achieved growth higher than the national average were Ontario, British Columbia and Nunavut.

Nova Scotia's share of the national population dropped from 3.2% in 1996 to 3.0% in 2001 while Atlantic Canada's share dropped from 8.0% to 7.6% over the same period. The population decline can be explained by a number of factors.

- Migration out of the province is relatively high as people move to Ontario and farther west in search of employment opportunities.
- Immigrants tend to settle in the larger population centers in central and western Canada.
- Nova Scotia's fertility rate is below the national average.
- Nova Scotia has a larger proportion of older residents the national average.

Population Changes for Nova Scotia Counties

Between 1996 and 2001, Halifax County had the largest increase in absolute and percentage terms with the addition of 16,217 persons, a 4.7% increase. Only five of the eighteen counties saw growth over the five year period and they were all located in the central area of the province. The concentration of growth in the central region of the province is partially driven by economics. People are moving closer to the economic hub of Halifax Metro because of the relatively high levels of employment. Hants county had the second highest growth rate in the province at 2.6% followed by Lunenburg, Colchester and Antigonish with rates of 0.1% each. The largest decline of 10.0% occurred in Guysborough County while the largest drop in absolute numbers was in Cape Breton County with a loss of 8,519 persons.

Population Change for Regional Municipalities and Towns

It should be noted that the creation of Cape Breton, Halifax and Queens Regional Municipalities has eliminated seven towns and three cities from the list of incorporated areas.

Among Nova Scotia's 31 incorporated towns only seven had a positive growth rate as the geographic shift of the population is toward suburban areas that are adjacent to towns. The largest absolute increase was the addition of 270 persons to the Town of Bridgewater while the largest percentage increase of 4.1% occurred in Bridgetown. Other towns with positive growth rates were Berwick (4.0%), Windsor (1.4%), Lockeport (1.3%), Kentville (1.1%) and Mulgrave (0.9%). The town of Canso posted the largest decline at -12%.

The Halifax Metropolitan Area grew by 4.7% to 359,183 and remains the thirteenth largest metro area in the country. Areas of growth included Timberlea (12.3%), Herring Cove (8.4%) and Eastern Passage (8.3%).

Cape Breton Regional Municipality declined 7.6% and Queens Regional Municipality declined 5.6%.

Additional Information

Statistics Canada's next scheduled release date for data from the 2001 Census is July 16, 2002. This release will be population by sex and single years of age. Further information is available by contacting the Statistics Division, Nova Scotia Department of Finance at 902-424-5691.

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POPULATION GROWTH FOR CANADA, PROVINCES and TERRITORIES
1981 - 2001

	Census Population				Population Growth (%)		
	1981	1991	1996	2001	1981/2001	1991/2001	1996/2001
Newfoundland	567,681	568,474	551,792	512,930	-9.6%	-9.8%	-7.0%
Prince Edward Island	122,506	129,765	134,557	135,294	10.4%	4.3%	0.5%
Nova Scotia	847,442	899,942	909,282	908,007	7.1%	0.9%	-0.1%
New Brunswick	696,403	723,900	738,133	729,498	4.8%	0.8%	-1.2%
Quebec	6,438,403	6,895,963	7,138,795	7,237,479	12.4%	5.0%	1.4%
Ontario	8,625,107	10,084,885	10,753,573	11,410,046	32.3%	13.1%	6.1%
Manitoba	1,026,241	1,091,942	1,113,898	1,119,583	9.1%	2.5%	0.5%
Saskatchewan	968,313	988,928	990,237	978,933	1.1%	-1.0%	-1.1%
Alberta	2,237,724	2,545,553	2,696,826	2,974,807	32.9%	16.9%	10.3%
British Columbia	2,744,467	3,282,061	3,724,500	3,907,738	42.4%	19.1%	4.9%
Yukon	23,153	27,797	30,766	28,674	23.8%	3.2%	-6.8%
Northwest Territories	-	-	39,672	37,360	-	-	-5.8%
Nunavut	-	-	24,730	26,745	-	-	8.1%
Canada Total	24,343,181	27,296,859	28,846,761	30,007,094	23.3%	9.9%	4.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada

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POPULATION GROWTH NOVA SCOTIA COUNTIES
1981 - 2001

	Census Population				Population Growth (%)		
	1981	1991	1996	2001	1981/2001	1991/2001	1996/2001
Annapolis	22,522	23,641	22,324	21,773	-3.3%	-7.9%	-2.5%
Antigonish	18,110	19,226	19,554	19,578	8.1%	1.8%	0.1%
Cape Breton	127,035	120,098	117,849	105,968	-16.6%	-11.8%	-10.1%
Colchester	43,224	47,683	49,262	49,307	14.1%	3.4%	0.1%
Cumberland	35,231	34,284	33,804	32,605	-7.5%	-4.9%	-3.5%
Digby	21,689	21,250	20,500	19,548	-9.9%	-8.0%	-4.6%
Guysborough	12,752	11,724	10,917	9,827	-22.9%	-16.2%	-10.0%
Halifax	288,126	330,846	342,966	359,183	24.7%	8.6%	4.7%
Hants	33,121	37,843	39,483	40,513	22.3%	7.1%	2.6%
Inverness	22,337	21,620	20,918	19,937	-10.7%	-7.8%	-4.7%
Kings	49,739	56,317	59,193	58,866	18.3%	4.5%	-0.6%
Lunenburg	45,746	47,634	47,561	47,591	4.0%	-0.1%	0.1%
Pictou	50,350	49,651	48,718	46,965	-6.7%	-5.4%	-3.6%
Queens	13,126	12,923	12,417	11,723	-10.7%	-9.3%	-5.6%
Richmond	12,284	11,260	11,022	10,225	-16.8%	-9.2%	-7.2%
Shelburne	17,328	17,343	17,002	16,231	-6.3%	-6.4%	-4.5%
Victoria	8,432	8,708	8,482	7,962	-5.6%	-8.6%	-6.1%
Yarmouth	26,290	27,891	27,310	26,843	2.1%	-3.8%	-1.7%
Nova Scotia	847,442	899,942	909,282	908,007	7.1%	0.9%	-0.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada

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URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION FOR NOVA SCOTIA COUNTIES
2001

	Total Population	Urban Population	%	Rural Population	%
Shelburne County	16,231	2,013	12.4	14,218	87.6
Yarmouth County	26,843	7,561	28.2	19,282	71.8
Digby County	19,548	2,131	10.9	17,417	89.1
Queens County	11,723	2,888	24.6	8,835	75.4
Annapolis County	21,773	2,848	13.1	18,925	86.9
Lunenburg County	47,591	12,955	27.2	34,636	72.8
Kings County	58,866	27,416	46.6	31,450	53.4
Hants County	40,513	9,965	24.6	30,548	75.4
Halifax County	359,183	283,337	78.9	75,846	21.1
Colchester County	49,307	21,442	43.5	27,865	56.5
Cumberland County	32,605	16,454	50.5	16,151	49.5
Pictou County	46,965	24,977	53.2	21,988	46.8
Guysborough County	9,827	-	0	9,827	100
Antigonish County	19,578	5,195	26.5	14,383	73.5
Inverness County	19,937	5,403	27.1	14,534	72.9
Richmond County	10,225	-	0	10,225	100
Cape Breton County	109,330	82,424	75.4	26,906	24.6
Victoria County	7,962	-	0	7,962	100
Nova Scotia	908,007	507,009	55.8	400,998	44.2

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada

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POPULATION GROWTH OF INCORPORATED TOWNS
1981 - 2001

	Census Population				Population Growth (%)		
	1981	1991	1996	2001	1981/2001	1991/2001	1996/2001
TOWNS							
Amherst	9,684	9,742	9,669	9,470	-2.2%	-2.8%	-2.1%
Annapolis Royal	631	633	583	550	-12.8%	-13.1%	-5.7%
Antigonish	5,205	4,924	4,860	4,754	-8.7%	-3.5%	-2.2%
Berwick	1,699	2,150	2,195	2,282	34.3%	6.1%	4.0%
Bridgetown	1,047	1,021	994	1,035	-1.1%	1.4%	4.1%
Bridgewater	6,669	7,248	7,351	7,621	14.3%	5.1%	3.7%
Canso	1,255	1,228	1,127	992	-21.0%	-19.2%	-12.0%
Clark's Harbour	1,059	1,076	980	944	-10.9%	-12.3%	-3.7%
Digby	2,558	2,311	2,199	2,111	-17.5%	-8.7%	-4.0%
Hantsport	1,395	1,274	1,252	1,202	-13.8%	-5.7%	-4.0%
Kentville	4,974	5,506	5,551	5,610	12.8%	1.9%	1.1%
Lockeport	929	798	692	701	-24.5%	-12.2%	1.3%
Lunenburg	3,014	2,781	2,599	2,568	-14.8%	-7.7%	-1.2%
Mahone Bay	1,228	1,096	1,017	991	-19.3%	-9.6%	-2.6%
Middleton	1,834	1,819	1,800	1,744	-4.9%	-4.1%	-3.1%
Mulgrave	1,099	935	896	904	-17.7%	-3.3%	0.9%
New Glasgow	10,464	9,905	9,812	9,432	-9.9%	-4.8%	-3.9%
Oxford	1,470	1,384	1,352	1,332	-9.4%	-3.8%	-1.5%
Parrsboro	1,799	1,634	1,617	1,529	-15.0%	-6.4%	-5.4%
Pictou	4,628	4,134	4,022	3,875	-16.3%	-6.3%	-3.7%
Port Hawkesbury	3,850	3,991	3,809	3,701	-3.9%	-7.3%	-2.8%
Shelburne	2,303	2,245	2,132	2,013	-12.6%	-10.3%	-5.6%
Springhill	4,896	4,373	4,193	4,091	-16.4%	-6.4%	-2.4%
Stellarton	5,435	5,237	4,968	4,809	-11.5%	-8.2%	-3.2%
Stewiacke	1,174	1,306	1,405	1,388	18.2%	6.3%	-1.2%
Trenton	3,154	2,957	2,952	2,798	-11.3%	-5.4%	-5.2%
Truro	12,552	11,683	11,938	11,457	-8.7%	-1.9%	-4.0%
Westville	4,522	4,228	3,976	3,879	-14.2%	-8.3%	-2.4%
Windsor	3,646	3,625	3,726	3,778	3.6%	4.2%	1.4%
Wolfville	3,235	3,475	3,833	3,658	13.1%	5.3%	-4.6%
Yarmouth	7,475	7,781	7,568	7,561	1.2%	-2.8%	-0.1%

Note: The cities of Halifax and Dartmouth as well as the towns of Bedford and Liverpool have been incorporated into regional municipalities since the 1996 Census.

Statistics Canada will be providing 2001census data for these areas, but will not provide data in the future.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada

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NOVA SCOTIA COUNTIES AND CENSUS SUBDIVISIONS POPULATION
1981 - 2001

	Type	Population 1981	1991	1996	2001	% Change 1996/2001	2001 Occupied Private Dwellings
NOVA SCOTIA		847,442	899,942	909,282	908,007	-0.1%	403,819
Annapolis County		22,522	23,641	22,324	21,773	-2.5%	10,404
Annapolis Royal	T	631	633	583	550	-5.7%	310
Annapolis Subd. A	SCM	7,968	8,554	6,710	6,576	-2.0%	3,127
Annapolis Subd. B	SCM	4,162	4,081	4,038	3,789	-6.2%	1,750
Annapolis Subd. C	SCM	4,354	4,730	5,165	5,085	-1.5%	2,283
Annapolis Subd. D	SCM	2,526	2,792	3,024	2,979	-1.5%	1,532
Bear River (part) 6	R	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bear River 6B	R	-	11	10	15	50.0%	4
Bridgetown	T	1,047	1,021	994	1,035	4.1%	503
Middleton	T	1,834	1,819	1,800	1,744	-3.1%	895
Antigonish County		18,110	19,226	19,554	19,578	0.1%	8,377
Antigonish	T	5,205	4,924	4,860	4,754	-2.2%	2,354
Antigonish Subd. A	SCM	6,227	7,221	7,557	7,702	1.9%	3,395
Antigonish Subd. B	SCM	6,505	6,854	6,854	6,819	-0.5%	2,531
Pomquet and Afton 23	R	173	227	283	303	7.1%	97
Cape Breton County		127,035	120,098	117,849	109,330	-7.2%	46,461
Cape Breton	RGM	124,993	117,403	114,733	105,968	-7.6%	45,491
Eskasoni 3	R	1,704	2,206	2,504	2,741	9.5%	753
Membertou 28B (Sydney)	R	338	489	612	621	1.5%	217
Colchester County		43,224	47,683	49,262	49,307	0.1%	22,086
Colchester Subdiv. A	SCM	3,473	3,680	3,755	3,643	-3.0%	1,974
Colchester Subdiv. B	SCM	15,099	17,782	18,406	18,607	1.1%	8,165
Colchester Subdiv. C	SCM	10,690	12,631	13,000	13,391	3.0%	5,522
Millbrook 27	R	236	601	758	821	8.3%	277
Stewiacke	T	1,174	1,306	1,405	1,388	-1.2%	565
Truro	T	12,552	11,683	11,938	11,457	-4.0%	5,583
Cumberland County		35,231	34,284	33,804	32,605	-3.5%	15,954
Amherst	T	9,684	9,742	9,669	9,470	-2.1%	4,226
Cumberland Subd. A	SCM	3,336	2,853	2,699	2,471	-8.4%	1,389
Cumberland Subd. B	SCM	4,602	4,337	4,215	4,015	-4.7%	1,821
Cumberland Subd. C	SCM	4,661	5,200	5,412	5,216	-3.6%	2,568
Cumberland Subd. D	SCM	4,783	4,761	4,647	4,481	-3.6%	2,807
Oxford	T	1,470	1,384	1,352	1,332	-1.5%	586
Parrsboro	T	1,799	1,634	1,617	1,529	-5.4%	807
Springhill	T	4,896	4,373	4,193	4,091	-2.4%	1,750
Digby County		21,689	21,250	20,500	19,548	-4.6%	9,837
Bear River (Part) 6	R	37	55	77	89	15.6%	38
Clare	MD	9,598	9,654	9,298	9,067	-2.5%	4,551
Digby	MD	9,496	9,230	8,926	8,281	-7.2%	4,200
Digby	T	2,558	2,311	2,199	2,111	-4.0%	1,048

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NOVA SCOTIA COUNTIES AND CENSUS SUBDIVISIONS POPULATION
1981 - 2001

	Type	Population 1981	1991	1996	2001	% Change 1996/2001	2001 Occupied Private Dwellings
Guysborough County		12,752	11,724	10,917	9,827	-10.0%	5,286
Canso	T	1,255	1,228	1,127	992	-12.0%	437
Guysborough	MD	7,368	6,381	5,942	5,165	-13.1%	2,964
Mulgrave	T	1,099	935	896	904	0.9%	379
St. Mary's	MD	3,030	3,172	2,952	2,766	-6.3%	1,506
Halifax County		288,126	330,846	342,966	359,183	4.7%	153,353
Halifax	RGM	288,107	330,758	342,853	359,111	4.7%	153,328
Cole Harbour 30	R	2	38	50	38	-24.0%	15
Sheet Harbour 36	R	17	50	63	34	-46.0%	10
Shubenacadie 13	R	-	-	2	-	-	-
Hants County		33,121	37,843	39,483	40,513	2.6%	16,490
East Hants	MD	15,000	18,560	19,767	20,821	5.3%	8,176
Hantsport	T	1,395	1,274	1,252	1,202	-4.0%	531
Indian Brook 14	R	626	773	946	932	-1.5%	290
West Hants	MD	12,454	13,611	13,792	13,780	-0.1%	5,858
Windsor	T	3,646	3,625	3,726	3,778	1.4%	1,635
Inverness County		22,337	21,620	20,918	19,937	-4.7%	9,326
Inverness Subd. A	SCM	7,170	6,947	6,595	6,009	-8.9%	3,153
Inverness Subd. B	SCM	6,509	6,352	6,132	5,769	-5.9%	2,535
Inverness Subd. C	SCM	4,353	3,908	3,808	3,823	0.4%	1,995
Port Hawkesbury	T	3,850	3,991	3,809	3,701	-2.8%	1,478
Whycocomagh 2	R	455	422	574	635	10.6%	165
Kings County		49,739	56,317	59,193	58,866	-0.6%	25,979
Berwick	T	1,699	2,150	2,195	2,282	4.0%	937
Cambridge 32	R	53	73	80	104	30.0%	43
Horton 35	R	5	18	48	53	10.4%	22
Kentville	T	4,974	5,506	5,551	5,610	1.1%	2,531
Kings Subd. A	SCM	18,753	21,245	22,700	22,430	-1.2%	9,660
Kings Subd. B	SCM	10,081	11,076	11,490	11,619	1.1%	4,883
Kings Subd. C	SCM	5,865	7,498	8,049	7,943	-1.3%	3,393
Kings Subd. D	SCM	5,074	5,268	5,247	5,167	-1.5%	2,326
Wolfville	T	3,235	3,475	3,833	3,658	-4.6%	2,184
Lunenburg County		45,746	47,634	47,561	47,591	0.1%	23,910
Bridgewater	T	6,669	7,248	7,351	7,621	3.7%	3,465
Chester	MD	10,242	10,762	10,602	10,781	1.7%	5,848
Gold River 21	R	-	15	25	39	56.0%	13
Lunenburg	MD	24,593	25,720	25,949	25,570	-1.5%	12,906
Lunenburg	T	3,014	2,781	2,599	2,568	-1.2%	1,182
Mahone Bay	T	1,228	1,096	1,017	991	-2.6%	490
New Ross 20	R	-	-	-	21	-	6
Pennal 19	R	-	12	18	-	-	-

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NOVA SCOTIA COUNTIES AND CENSUS SUBDIVISIONS POPULATION
1981 - 2001

	Type	Population 1981	1991	1996	2001	% Change 1996/2001	2001 Occupied Private Dwellings
Pictou County		50,350	49,651	48,718	46,965	-3.6%	20,886
Fishers Grant 24	R	199	247	315	394	25.1%	111
Merigomish Harbour 31	R	-	2	2	-	-	-
New Glasgow	T	10,464	9,905	9,812	9,432	-3.9%	4,221
Pictou	T	4,628	4,134	4,022	3,875	-3.7%	1,658
Pictou Subd. A	SCM	6,310	6,841	6,641	6,355	-4.3%	3,291
Pictou Subd. B	SCM	6,266	6,598	6,602	6,242	-5.5%	2,436
Pictou Subd. C	SCM	9,372	9,502	9,428	9,181	-2.6%	4,414
Stellarton	T	5,435	5,237	4,968	4,809	-3.2%	2,047
Trenton	T	3,154	2,957	2,952	2,798	-5.2%	1,168
Westville	T	4,522	4,228	3,976	3,879	-2.4%	1,540
Queens County		13,126	12,923	12,417	11,723	-5.6%	6,179
Queens	RGM	13,105	12,903	12,386	11,694	-5.6%	6,168
Wildcat 12	R	21	20	31	29	-6.5%	11
Richmond County		12,284	11,260	11,022	10,225	-7.2%	5,081
Chapel Island 5	R	202	291	350	419	19.7%	122
Richmond Subd. A	SCM	4,879	4,498	4,437	4,082	-8.0%	1,951
Richmond Subd. B	SCM	2,396	2,138	2,074	1,876	-9.5%	1,347
Richmond Subd. C	SCM	4,807	4,333	4,161	3,848	-7.5%	1,661
Shelburne County		17,328	17,343	17,002	16,231	-4.5%	7,763
Barrington	MD	7,680	7,774	7,883	7,648	-3.0%	3,429
Clark's Harbour	T	1,059	1,076	980	944	-3.7%	406
Lockeport	T	929	798	692	701	1.3%	322
Shelburne	MD	5,357	5,450	5,315	4,925	-7.3%	2,658
Shelburne	T	2,303	2,245	2,132	2,013	-5.6%	948
Victoria County		8,432	8,708	8,482	7,962	-6.1%	4,403
Victoria Subd. A	SCM	3,707	3,813	3,595	3,301	-8.2%	1,777
Victoria Subd. B	SCM	4,439	4,522	4,439	4,217	-5.0%	2,496
Wagmatcook 1	R	286	373	448	444	-0.9%	130
Yarmouth County		26,290	27,891	27,310	26,843	-1.7%	12,044
Argyle	MD	8,949	9,215	8,947	8,688	-2.9%	3,751
Yarmouth	MD	7,475	10,827	10,722	10,476	-2.3%	4,898
Yarmouth	T	9,842	7,781	7,568	7,561	-0.1%	3,353
Yarmouth 33	R	24	68	73	118	61.6%	42

C = City, SCM = Subdivision of County Municipality, RGM = Regional Municipality, MD = Municipal District, T = Town

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada